

a modified human C3 protein with one or more of the following mutations: E992S, D993A, D996S, A997Q, E998S, R999G, L1000M, K1001N, H1002I, V1005H, Q1152R, E1153K, K1155F, R954E, the double mutant R954Q + E955G, REA1591-3 stop or frame shift.

REMARKS

The single claim in the case is Claims 57, relating to a DNA sequence coding for a modified human C3 protein which is capable of forming a stable C3 convertase. This claim is supported by the specification, at pages 62/2, lines 6-7, 62/2, line 23, 63/2 line 17 65/1, line 5 and 68/3, line 19, and the sequence ID Nos at those page references, Seq ID no 14, 18, and 19. It corresponds to Claim 55 in rewritten form. The present claim in the case does not present any of the issues raised in the rejections under Section 112, so the rejection on this ground is respectfully requested to be reconsidered and withdrawn.

It is noted that the Examiner has objected to the specification because of the unusual system of numbering the pages. The incorrect numbering of the Tables has been corrected. It is pointed out that the parent application recently issued as US Patent 6,268,485, and the numbering of the pages did not present a problem in the prosecution of that case. Reconsideration of the issue of page numbering and objection thereto is respectfully requested. If, after review of the situation, the Examiner would like Applicants' attorney to correct the matter, it can be done at a later time. It is noted that the page numbering system is a result of practice within the PCT, which was the originating jurisdiction of the application.

In regard to the listing of the references, Applicants note that the Examiner has not reviewed or been provided with the references at pages 69 and 70. Many of the cited references appear in the background discussion of the specification, or are not additive to references already in the record.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested. Notice of allowance of the claim is urged.

Respectfully submitted,



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